

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-13 are pending. Claims 2 and 10-13 have been amended for clarity and consistency, especially with respect to distinguishing the non-aqueous electrolytic solution and the non-aqueous solvent from each other. The solvent is one ingredient of the solution. No new matter has been introduced. Favorable consideration of this amendment and allowance of the application is now respectfully requested.

For the convenience of the Examiner, the Applicants reiterate their prior arguments below:

Support for Claims 1-13 in Priority Document (JP 2001-152234)

Support for the new claims is found in the priority document as follows: Claims 1-2 (Claims 1-2, page 2); Claims 3-4, page 18, [0058]; Claim 5, page 9 [0021]; Claim 6, page 16 [0050]; Claim 7, pages 16 [0045] and page 17 [0048]; Claim 8, page 14, [0044]; Claim 9, page 15 [0047]; Claim 10, page 16 [0050], and Claims 11-13, page 16 [0044-0045] and page 17 [0047-0048].

Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sekino et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,794,089. This rejection is moot in view of the Applicants' perfection of their foreign priority date to JP2001-152234, filed May 22, 2001. Support for independent Claims 1 and 2 is found in Claims 1 and 2 of the priority document (page 2).

Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Ueda et al., U.S. Publication 2002/0192565. This rejection is moot in view of the Applicants'

perfection of their foreign priority date to JP2001-152234, filed May 22, 2001. Support for independent Claims 1 and 2 is found in Claims 1 and 2 of the priority document (page 2).

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.


Respectfully submitted,

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